

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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DATE DISTR. 29 MAY 51

SUBJECT Soviet Complaints about Damage to Blast Furnaces at Brandenburg Steel Plant

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. On 30 January 1951, Kozlov, Chief of the Industrial Division of the Soviet Control Commission, Berlin-Karlshorst, complained to Fritz Selbmann, Minister for Heavy Industry in the DDR, about the damage to the five blast furnaces in the Stahlwerk Brandenburg, which had resulted in a complete stoppage of production.* Kozlov asked that those responsible for what he called the "crime" be found, since, in his opinion, it was a case of sabotage.

2. In reply, Selbmann stated that it was very unlikely that this was a case of sabotage and, in his view, the damage to the blast furnaces was more probably due to the hurried manner in which these furnaces had been constructed. He promised to send Kozlov a detailed report on the Stahlwerk Brandenburg.**

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